Negotiation for Airbus/Boeing

17. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have signed the contract, for the amount of Rs. 10,000 crores to acquire 10 Airbus-340 and 18 Boeing-737;

(b) if so, by when it would be purchased; and

(c) whether Airbuses would be equipped with latest technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Retirement age of Air Hostesses

18. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the retirement age of Air Hostesses in Indian Airlines and Air India is different;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The retirement age of Air Hostesses in Indian Airlines and Air India is 58 Years.

Services on uneconomical routes

19. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have initiated an exercise to review and rework the existing guidelines that force carriers to operate a stipulated number of flights on the social and uneconomical routes;

(b) if so, whether it will adversely affect the chances of smaller places like tribal district like Yavatmal in Maharashtra to be on the airmap; and

(c) whether Government have any plan to connect Yavatmal by air in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee appointed to review the existing Route Dispersal Guidelines is yet to submit its report.

(c) Presently, Indian Airlines has no plans to connect Yavatmal by Air.

Variation in prices of aviation fuel

20. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the price of the aviation fuel in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai respectively;

(b) the reason for such a variation of prices in each such case with break up of tax and other duties; and

(c) the steps contemplated to overcome this variation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI) : (a) and (b) The prices of ATF effective 1st November, 2003 is given below:

Domestic flights

City	Basic Rate (per KL) (Inc. Excise Duty)	Sales Tax	Total
Delhi	17033.96	3406.79	20440.75
Mumbai	16550.88	4137.72	20688.60
Kolkata	19335.33	4833.83	24169.16
Chennai	17344.54	5029.92	22374.46

(Note: Basic Rate is inclusive of Excise Duty and other charges as levied by petroleum companies).